Epstein's book and its theorizing 2/19/78

Plausibility is no longer relevant. The theory that Nosenko was a disinformation agent is not even reasonable when it is compared with what he told the CIA about other than Oswald and it cannot serve the alleged purpose of disinforming, based on what is known of what Nosenko said to the FBI. It likewise is apparent that Nosenko has no fear of being killed or he would not be making himself available to others, like Barron and Epstein. That Nosenko was being interviewed and for a book I knew several years ago. My source was I think an AP reporter named Martin. I know it was AP. So how secret was Nosenko keeping himself, how much was the CIA worried about him?

If the CIA really believed this nonsense it could and would have broken Nosenko during the three years it kept him isolated at Camp Pearry. McCone ultimately told Dan Schorr on camera that the CIA was satisfied that Nosenko stacked okay.

Note that the Russians did NOT supply records confirming Nosenko's story. And that as of the time he told this story it was not known that Oswald was anti-Soviet, part of what the Russian files disclose, according to Nosenko. Not knowing about Nosenko in late 1964 and early 1965 I do go into this in Whitewash, from the available WC records.

There is an element of desparation in all of this. Part of the Post's account of the New York article reflects use of a strange approach to me several years ago, roughly coinciding in time with both the amending of FOIA and the Rockefeller Commission.

The CIA rehired Rocca to do a report for the Rockefeller Commission. Rocca takes this incredible line in that report. He goes farthur and tries to resurrect the thoroughly discredited Alvarada Ugarte fabrications. They are designed to make Oswald the assasin with Cuban backing.

Rocca means Angleton. Angleton is publicly credited with being an Epstein consultant. The prior CIA/Angleton/Barron/Readers Digest connections need not be repeated here.

I received several phone calls from a man with a heavy Russian accent. He called himself "Mr. Martin." He wanted to meet with me. He appeared to be reluctant to come here. He indicated he lived in the Wheaton area, without identifying that DC suburb by name. So I arranged a meeting in Rockeville on a day I had to be in Rockville anyway. We chatted and shopped together for a while. He identified me by my carrying a copy of Whitewash IV (for which he has never paid) while I browsed in the Mechinger store. (That he has a home with a garden is apparent from the seeds he purchased) We then lunched at an inexpensive restaurant adjacent to Mechingers. Mr. Martin wanted anonymity so I made no effort to watch him as he left and get the identification of his auto.

Mr. Martin was not merely anti-Soviet and anti-KGB - he was anti anti-Soviets, especially Nosenko. He was bitter and illogical in his denunciations of Nosenko. He had initially raised the Nosenko subject with my by phone. I did not raise it with him. It is my recollection that he did this in terms of Barron's book KGB.

If I had wanted to identify Mr. Martin, who is pretty certainly a Soviet defector and with little less certainty a KGB defector, it would have been simple. An unknown associate could have parked in the same lot and photographed us as we walked, him as he left in his car, and perhaps have followed him without detection. So there was some risk in seeking me and and meeting with me in public, particularly as open a place as the Mechinger store and its parking lot. It is hardly within the CIA's claims of "national security" interest in secrecy related to defectors.

I am not now certain but I believe that Mr. Martin mentioned the name Golitsin, mentioned in the news account. He could, in fact, have been Golitsin. Prior disagreements with Nosenko could account for the intensity of his dislike and the vacuousness of his denunciations of Nosenko- no proof, no reason and no hiding of hatred. After 10 years.

This guy wanted to pin the JFK assassination on the KGB and on Nosenko as co-conspirator.

He also knew of other defectors. As I recall mentioned where some worked. Of course I have no way of knowing if truthfully or if he spoke of himself. I think one worked at NYU as a translator. (His English was good but accented, indicative of long contact with the language as spoken here.)